

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Summary of Office Action

Claims 12-16, 19, 20, 26, 27, and 28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 3,614,126 of Carlson in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,501,167 of Palowsky.

Claims 17, 18, 21, and 22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Carlson in view of Palowsky as applied to claims 12 and 19 above, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 2,155,130 of Hanel.

Claims 23-25, 29, and 30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Carlson in view of Palowsky as applied to claim 12 above, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,588,206 of Powers.

Interview Summary

A telephonic interview was conducted between the Applicant's representative and Examiner Williams on 02/12/2010. Differences between the prior art and the current disclosure were discussed. Particularly, the relationship between the weighty drum and the buffer device was discussed. No agreement was reached and Examiner Williams indicated a further search would be necessary.

Summary of Amendments

In this amendment claims 13-30 have been canceled. Claims 31-48 have been newly added. No new matter has been added.

Discussion of 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Rejections

New Claim 31 includes the language "a buffer device for buffering and absorbing noise during the recovering of the recovery device, said buffer device disposed on said rear end plate and independent from said weighty drum, wherein, when said weighty drum compresses said recovery device during braking said buffer device remains in its original position."

The Examiner alleges that Carlson in view of Palowsky renders claim 12 unpatentable. Claim 12 has been cancelled and rewritten as claim 31. As noted above, claim 31 includes the limitation that the buffer device is independent from the weighty drum and remains in its original position when the weighty drum compresses the recovery device during braking. The independence of the weighty drum allows the weighty drum to transfer more momentum during braking because it is not pulled back by the buffer device. Figure 2 of the instant application shows the recovery spring being compressed by the weighty drum. However, the buffer spring remains in its original position because it is not attached to the weighty mass. When the weighty mass is returned by the recovery spring the buffer spring reduces the noise and buffers the recovery of the weighty drum.

In contrast, the weighty mass of Carlson is fixedly connected to the support means, which also acts as the recovery device. There is no buffer device taught by Carlson, the weighty mass is simply allowed to vibrate until coming to rest in its original position. Thus, Carlson does not teach a buffer device let alone one independent from the weighty mass which remains in its original position during braking. The springs in Palowsky on either side of the mass of inertia are construed by the Examiner to be a recovery device and a buffer device. However, there is no mention that the mass of inertia is not connected to the spring positioned at each end of the mass. Thus, Palowsky does not teach a buffer device independent from the mass of inertia which remains in its original position while the mass of inertia compresses the recovery device. Carlson, Palowsky, or the combination of the two references do not teach or

suggest all the limitations present in claim 31. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

Independent claims 26, 27, and 28 have been cancelled and rewritten as claims 43, 45, and 46 respectively. These new claims include similar limitations with respect to the braking buffer devices and the turning enhancement device as discussed with reference to claim 31 above and for the same reasons are patentable over Carlson in view of Palowsky. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner withdraw the § 103(a) rejections to the above mentioned claims.

Applicant has not necessarily discussed here every reason why every pending independent claim is patentable over the cited art; nonetheless, Applicant is not waiving any argument regarding any such reason or reasons. Applicant reserves the right to raise any such additional argument(s) during the future prosecution of this application, if Applicant deems it necessary or appropriate to do so.

Dependent Claims

Claims 32-42, 44, and 47-48 are at least allowable for depending from an allowable base claim, as well as for other reasons. In view of the above remarks, a specific discussion of the dependent claims is considered to be unnecessary. Therefore, Applicant's silence regarding any dependent claim is not to be interpreted as agreement with, or acquiescence to, the rejection of such claim or as waiving any argument regarding that claim.

CONCLUSION

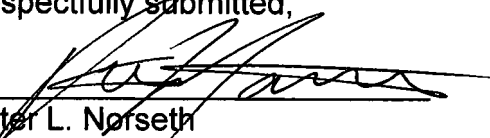
In light of the amendments and the preceding arguments, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance.

If the Examiner believes that a conference would be of value in expediting the prosecution of this application, he is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned counsel at (650) 838-4300 to arrange for such a conference.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50-2207, under Order No. 59629-8011.US01 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: February 18, 2010

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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